

[Date]

[Recipient's Name]

[Address]

[City, State, Zip]

NOTICE OF DATA BREACH

Dear [Recipient's Name],

I am writing to provide you with notification regarding a possible data incident involving Weber and Company, Inc. network computers, in which your personal information may have been accessed.

What Happened?

On February 23, 2020, our office attempted to e-file a tax return for a client, but the filing was rejected multiple times. We contacted the IRS to investigate the error. Subsequently, our office experienced another e-filed tax return rejection. Suspecting a possible data breach, Weber and Company, Inc. had their IT consultants conduct a full scan and analysis of our systems. No positive breaches were detected.

On March 18, 2020, we were contacted by the IRS who advised that hackers filed 2019 tax returns for some of our clients in order to obtain large refunds. After sheltering in place, we have continued the communication with the IRS criminal investigation. The IRS criminal investigators are actively investigating this issue. The FBI is now involved and conducting an investigation as well.

Weber and Company, Inc. immediately instituted corrective measures to ensure that any access to the firm's electronic systems was terminated. Although we are unaware of any acquisition of your information or likelihood of harm to you, we are notifying you of this incident because your personal information was accessible to the perpetrator. If we become aware that a false tax return was filed under your name or company, we will notify you under separate cover.

What Information Was Involved?

This information may have included your name, date of birth, telephone number(s), address, social security number, all employment (W-2) information, 1099 information, as well as direct deposit bank account information, including account number and routing information (if provided to us). Further, supporting documentation including brokerage statements and other types of specific documents you may also have provided to us.

What We Are Doing:

With the help of our IT consultants, the following steps have been taken: (1) new procedures and policies have been implemented to prevent unauthorized access; (2) all passwords have been changed; (3) a two-step authentication has been implemented for online system access; and (4) all network firewalls, computers and security protections are confirmed to be properly functioning. We also hired an outside IT security consultant to analyze our data system and make appropriate recommendations to further ensure the security of our client information. We will continue to work with the IT consultants to keep the firm and clients safe from a future security breach.

Further, we are working with the appropriate agencies on your behalf such as the IRS, FTB and FBI. Our EFIN has been changed and the IRS is monitoring our firm's tax client filings to reject any returns filed fraudulently.

We are providing clients who have been affected by the security breach with one year of complimentary credit monitoring from Experian. Your activation code for the complimentary credit monitoring is as follows: _____. This product helps detect possible misuse of your personal information and provides you with superior identity protection support focused on immediate identification and resolution of identity theft. You must use the activation code and enroll in the credit monitoring by **July 1, 2020**. Your code will not work after this date. Enclosed are detailed instructions on how to activate the credit monitoring as well as additional details regarding the credit monitoring services.

What You Can Do:

- We strongly recommend you be vigilant in reviewing your bank account and brokerage statements, as well as free credit reports.
- We suggest you change any bank account numbers provided to us, and/or have a conversation with your bank regarding the monitoring to be provided by them as well as yourselves. It is also recommended that you change your passwords on all accounts, bank and brokerage.
- We recommend that you place a fraud alert on your credit file. A fraud alert tells creditors to contact you before they open any new accounts or change your existing accounts.
- We also suggest you contact the FTC at 1-877-438-4338 and the Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213 about getting an Identity Protection PIN to use with your Social Security Number that the criminals do not know.

- You can call the three major credit agencies and place a 90-day fraud alert on your accounts. To do so, their contact information is:

Equifax	Experian	TransUnion
P.O. Box 740241 Atlanta, GA 30374 1-800-525-6285	P.O. Box 2104 Allen, TX 75013 1-888-397-3742	P.O. Box 2000 Chester, PA 19022 1-800-680-7289
https://www.alerts.equifax.com/AutoFraud_Online/jsp/fraudAlert.jsp	https://www.experian.com/fraud/center.html	https://fraud.transunion.com/fa/fraudAlert/landingPage.jsp

- You are also entitled to a free credit report every year from each of these three agencies at: www.annualcreditreport.com
- If you suspect identity theft, report it to law enforcement, including the Federal Trade Commission at <https://www.identitytheft.gov/Assistant#>
- You also may want to consider contacting the major credit bureaus at the telephone numbers above to place a credit freeze on your credit file. A credit freeze means potential creditors cannot get your credit report. That makes it less likely that an identify thief can open new accounts in your name. The cost to place and lift a freeze depends on state law. Find your state Attorney General's office at naag.org to learn more.

The privacy of your information has always been a top priority for our firm. After our many years—and sometimes decades—of close business relationships with our clients, we have no words to express how devastating it is to have had this happen. If possible, please send us a copy of any IRS or FTB letters that you receive to keep us informed.

For More Information:

Protecting your information is incredibly important to us, as is addressing this incident with the information and assistance you may need. If you have any questions or concerns, call Monique Hagan, who is the office contact for this matter, at 1-408-931-6201; email Ms. Hagan at mhagan@weberandcompanycpa.com or write 2021 the Alameda, Ste 380, San Jose, CA 95126.

Sincerely,


Weber and Company, Inc.

Enclosure